

Message Text

SECRET

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21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 111036Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8483

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 3616

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, SA, US

SUBJECT: HAWK MISSILES: US "COUNTEROFFER"MENTIONED IN NEWSWEEK
INTERVIEW

REF: (A) AMMAN 3584, (B) AMMAN 3614, (C) AMMAN 3615 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTICE TEXT DE BORCHGRAVE INTERVIEW
THAT MENTION IN ONE OF QUESTIONS IS MADE OF "US COUNTER-
OFFER"OF \$500 MILLION.

2. WE PRESUME FROM REMARKS MADE TO US BY DE BORCHGRAVE
THAT KING AND RIFAI MENTIONED THIS TO HIM.

3. SINCE MY PRESENTATIKONS TO KING OF "RESTRUCTURED
PACKAGE" WAS IN FINANCIAL TERMS LIMITED TO MENTION OF
FIGURES \$510-543 MILLION, THIS COUNTEROFFER TENDS NOW
TO HAVE BLENDED ITSELF WITH EARLIER PHASE I PACKAGE OF
\$520 MILLION WHICH AMBASSADOR PORTER PRESENTED TO
FAHD. KING WAS OF COURSE CAREFUL IN HIS ANSWER NOT
CONFIRM A FIGURE OR AN OFFER.

4. HOPE DEPARTMENT CAN STEER QUESTIMNS WHICH MIGHT
ARISE AS RESULT OF JULY 12 NEWSWEEK PUBLICATION OF
INTERVIEW AWAY FROM PUBLIC DISCUSSION, PARTICULARLY
IN LIGHT OF APPARENTLY FAVOARABLE REACTION FROM
SAUDIS.

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5. KING WAS IN TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR JULY 9 IN
AQABA. KING MERELY CONFIRMED WHAT RIFAI HAS SAID
EARLIER THAT JORDAN STILL WAITING TO HEAR FROM SAUDIS
IN "NEXT FEW DAYS", BUT THAT RECEPTION IN JIDDA WAS GOOD.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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